Friends of Houston Cole Library

Debi Holmes-Binney
Desert Sojourn
A Woman’s Forty Days and Nights Alone

November 13, 2001
7:00PM
Houston Cole Library
From the Publisher, Seal Press:

At age thirty-one, having left behind a stifling marriage, Debi Holmes-Binney set off into the harsh Great Salt Lake Desert with basic supplies—rice, lentils, sixty-four gallons of water—and several blank writing journals. Miles from the nearest human outpost, she settled into a rugged canyon populated by sagebrush, juniper trees and the occasional mountain lion. Her plan was to spend forty days and nights alone, to sort out her life and find spiritual renewal. But any romantic notions of communing peacefully with nature were promptly shattered by a furious rainstorm that flooded her tent, followed by a freak blizzard that buried her in a layer of snow and ice. With no one to turn to but herself, she gathered her wits and constructed a simple shelter against the canyon walls, a single spot from which she could face both the elements and her own fears.